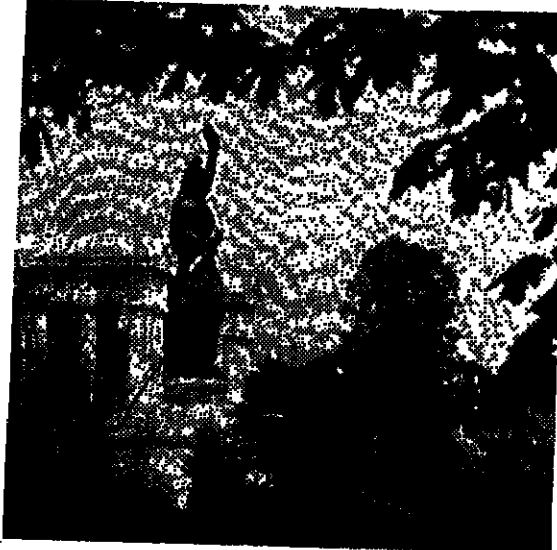




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The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Hamburg, 16 December 1971
Tenth Year - No. 505 - By air

Decision-laden December faces politicians

Politically, Christmas has not been quiet for years. The December conferences of the Nato Council of Ministers are already described as traditional and the Common Market too is often extremely active towards the end of the year.

This December is so full of negotiations that there must be concern for the nerves, physical health and mental powers of politicians gathering in Warsaw, Washington, Rome, Berlin, Paris, Copenhagen, Brussels, the Azores, Florida and New York where the dangers of a serious war are being debated.

That entails much work for governments and their experts. But there can no longer be any doubt that the enormous efforts being made this December are well-intentioned. The year seems to be finishing better than it looked four weeks ago.

In October all those involved in the West-German Berlin talks were still very sceptical about how and when they would end. February and March were bracketed as possible dates.

But then everything went quickly after Brezhnev's power in Moscow increased and after his long talks with Willy Brandt in the Crimea and President Pompidou in Paris. The Federal Republic is now reaping the rich harvest of a foreign policy that even friends at home and abroad sometimes considered as a risky and politically suicidal balancing act.

West Germany's efforts are now being looked upon in Western capitals more

heard abroad and they are always spoken with an undertone of respect.

It is good for a nation to learn that its main political policies are in harmony with the trends of the age. As a senior American official recently said, West German foreign policy is swimming in midstream.

The opposite feeling – that of thinking oneself sold down the river, of having no alternative or sullenly lagging behind current developments – is intolerable in the long run.

That is why the most difficult political journey this December will be that made by Opposition leader Rainer Barzel to Moscow. Barzel is known to view his trip with concern. It has always been easier to be creative and contribute to innovations and new ideas than to prevent them.

International politics is already further advanced than the ratified reality. The Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact countries are pressing for a European security conference to begin in 1972. Paris and Bonn also attach importance to this conference.

The conference would be held in order to achieve the next aim of détente – a combination of treaties banning military action against other countries under international law, thus practically preventing aggression. There could for instance be a ban on increasing present troop strengths or major troop movements. All this could be controlled by satellite spies.

Developments will show whether the Soviet Union is really interested in this. It is obvious that the Eastern European States (perhaps with the exception of the German Democratic Republic) are all for it. They hope that it will provide them with greater room for manoeuvre and greater independence within their own



Envoy reports

Egon Bahr, State Secretary from the Chancellor's Office, currently handling negotiations with the German Democratic Republic, reported on 2 December to Ambassadors of the Western Powers on the latest developments in his negotiations with the GDR envoy, Michael Kohl. (Photo: dpa)

bloc, especially where their protecting power, the Soviet Union, is concerned.

Proposals for a multilateral balanced reduction of forces on the other hand seem to meet with difficulties in Moscow. The fact that unofficial Nato observer Manlio Brosio has still received no date for a visit to Moscow despite all the so-called signals of recent years cannot be explained away by a dislike for him personally or the multilateral level of talks.

It is more likely that military experts in the Soviet Union have discovered too many problems of their own in this reduction of forces. How many Russian troops for instance could be withdrawn?

The Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) may result in partial success but this is not even theoretically perceptible in the MBFR talks. Nato Ministers will not be able to reach any results at the forthcoming meeting.

The decisive and most urgent question is the reorganisation of the Eastern currency system. But the end is in sight. The Europeans will have to act in close solidarity to counter the brutal methods of the Americans, especially those employed by Secretary of State for the Treasury John Connally.

Connally's attempts to cause divisions between the large European industrial nations or, even to play them off against each other have, not yet, reached their end.

In this respect Treasuryman Connally is currently indulging in more foreign policy than State Department officials. While William Rogers, Secretary of State, for Foreign Affairs, is emphasising the need for partnership with Europe, his colleague Connally never stops trying to provoke members of the alliance.

Agreement will soon be reached on new exchange rates as no country can endure the present situation for long. But this does not solve the economic and currency problems of the Western world.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 6 December 1971)
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 4 December 1971)

Successful Brandt-Pompidou meeting in Paris

The fact that there was no agreement on the question of troop reductions could only have been expected. But this was outweighed by far by agreements reached in other fields.

The fact that the two sides were fully agreed on East-West relations is proof of the French President's approval of Chancellor Brandt's Ostpolitik.

Paris expects the Federal Republic to turn more to her neighbours in the West after the first phase of her Ostpolitik has been closed with the ratification of the treaties with Moscow and Warsaw.

The European summit conference to be attended next year by the Common Market members and applicant nations presents a great opportunity for progress towards European unity. Signs in Paris are clearly in favour of Europe. The present favourable mood should be exploited further.

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Much admiration (for the courage necessary) respect (for the precise negotiating techniques) and relief (at the fact that the ship has been taken from a danger zone). Though a number of problems still have to be faced it can already be claimed that Chancellor Brandt and State Secretary Egon Bahr have gone to work with the same toughness, toughness and attention to detail as Konrad Adenauer and his Secretary Walter Hallstein, in the early days, as they integrated the Federal Republic into the Western alliance.

Comparisons are always misleading especially when the motives and matters at hand vary. But claims of this type can be

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Bonn plays a modest role in world affairs

DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

While Richard Nixon is travelling part of the way across the Atlantic to meet President Pompidou and Prime Minister Heath, Chancellor Willy Brandt is having to go to Florida to see the US President in his holiday home.

America seems to be making distinctions between its customers before turning to greater issues in its relations with China and the Soviet Union.

The act of balance is being rehearsed for a period of time that has begun to contrast sharply with the post-war era of static positions and bipolar tension.

The play of forces has become more complicated and less easily controlled by the buttons of command in the two main world headquarters.

The change is due not only to the triangle of power now beginning to form but just as much to the fact that States once taking a back seat in international politics are now coming to the fore.

Ten years ago nobody would have come up with the fantastic idea that an American President would be prepared for a Metternich-type role as training for the peace-keeping arts of balance.

There also exists the suspicion that Moscow will try to learn from the diplomacy practised in Russia since the days of Czar Alexander I, though suitably adapted to the Soviet age.

If you do not look too closely and for the time being ignore the main stage of action — the curtain will soon be raised in Peking — France will be seen to have the satisfaction of the meeting in the Azores in mid-December.

That is presumably how President Pompidou is looking at the situation. Following in the footsteps of the dead magician who himself had a dexterous though extravagant balancing act, Pompidou is finding it increasingly difficult to counter the erosion of France's power with the opportunities offered by a new, vital technocracy. The meeting with Nixon will help his image.

The West German government can only look on with satisfaction if France takes precedence in the quickly-changing world of international politics and if the pale splendour of old-time Europe emanates from Paris.

If Bonn were to find itself in a superior position to Paris in world politics it would have to sound the alarm-bells and correct the situation — as long as it was still interested in a Federal Europe.

The Federal Republic does not belong to the major powers, not even via the back-stairs of economic strength in which national economists take too much pride despite being so basically uncertain of their science.

Rump Germany is and remains no more than an intermediate power. The meeting at Key Biscayne on 28 and 29 December must not be over-estimated in our minds. Wishful thinking must not be allowed to cloud the issue.

Now that he has been raised on a pedestal with the award of the Nobel Peace Prize, will the Chancellor be able to guard himself against the dangers of German presumption and day-dreaming?

Because of previous experiences Willy Brandt is not susceptible to the temptations of crude nationalist arrogance. He is however seen to be more sentimental than the first Chancellor, Konrad Adenauer.

Adenauer's dry cynicism was a sure

guarantee that Germany's reduced stature would be seen in its right proportions. A limit was thus set to national ambitions. Key Biscayne must not go to our heads. The invitation may be a compliment in view of the transition, prompted by Washington, to the new possibilities of the triangle of major powers — but only may be, and it could quickly turn into a burden for us, a far greater burden than we are prepared to bear.

The more objectively we consider the changes in American policy heralded by President Nixon on 15 July and 15 August, the more certain we shall be about accommodating out limited interests to the necessity of European unity and using this as a yardstick to judge the American demand for burden-sharing.

The Nixon-Brandt meeting is of course overshadowed by the indispensability of a close bond of trust between West Germany and the United States to provide a solid foundation to the military alliance within the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

But behind this there are new problems that must not be ignored for reasons of pure constraint. The problems begin with the new currency system that is needed if the whole Western camp is not to dissolve into its individual components in the foreseeable future.

The final problem is the question of the American military presence in Europe. Some of the sting can be taken out of the situation but it must be reckoned that the forces will be reduced within the course of the next few years to a level compatible with America's real interests.

Basically, America as a major power must shoulder all her burdens, both the financial and the moral ones arising from her own crisis of identity. It is senseless to accept America's neo-protectionism as this would be a poor deal in every respect for everyone involved.

The Federal Republic can only play a modest role here — as reflected in the limited aims of its active Ostpolitik. The more certain he is that Germany's efforts fit into the general European framework, the more confidently the Chancellor will be able to fly to Key Biscayne.

Jürgen Törn

(Deutsche Zeitung, 3 December 1971).

Peking's entry in UN causes turmoil in Asia

The admission of the People's Republic of China into the United Nations will create a completely new balance of power in Asia. The dominant position assumed by the United States since 1945 should now be a thing of the past.

America itself prompted the change by deciding to withdraw from Indo-China and extending peace feelers towards Peking. The Americans have not exactly won many friends in their 26 years of predominance in Asia.

Along with this unpopularity the Americans have gained the reputation of unreliability among their former allies. Billions of dollars have been wasted and there has been no progress worth mentioning in the economic growth of Asian countries. The United States used weapons in the attempt to maintain its interests in Asia and keep China in rein.

A new age has now begun in Asia. The entry of the People's Republic of China into the United Nations forces Asian countries to change their policy, turn away from the United States and seek friendly relations with China.

In Tokyo the government is being attacked by the political parties and economic circles for following in America's footsteps in the United Nations vote on Chinese entry. The Japanese government on the other hand is blaming the Foreign Ministry for judging the situation incorrectly.

Malaysia's foreign policy has proved successful. She was one of the countries that voted for the Albanian resolution on Chinese entry.

The idea of neutralising South-East Asia put forward a long time ago by

Malaysian Prime Minister Tun Razak has been carefully noted by Peking. It is hoped in Kuala Lumpur that friendly relations with China could neutralise the Communist terrorists in Malaysia.

Singapore, with its important trade links with China, also voted for the entry of the People's Republic into the United Nations. Foreign Minister Rajaratnam described China's admission to the UN as the greatest fundamental change in the Asian political situation since 1945.

Since President Ne Win recently spent some time in Peking, Burma too has become reconciled with China and renewed its former friendly relations.

Indonesia broke off relations with China a long time ago and abstained in the UN vote but she should soon normalise her relations with Peking.

Thailand, a country that has previously been carried in the wake of the United States and profited by it, is also trying to establish contacts with Peking.

The anti-Communist Philippines, previously fully aligned to the United States, has also stepped in line with other Asian countries seeking to establish normal relations with China.

In Indo-China only the tiny kingdom of Laos has greeted China's entry. The Laotians hope that China will be able to

persuade North Vietnamese troops to withdraw from Laotian territory.

South Vietnam and Cambodia both fear that the United States could on day leave them in the lurch as it did Taiwan. Both States are completely dependent on American aid.

The most dramatic change has occurred in South Korea. Seoul previously wanted nothing at all to do with Communist States. Semi-official Red Cross delegations from South and North Korea are now negotiating with each other for the first time.

Both sides have stopped bombarding each other with words. President Park has ended his anti-Communist campaign and South Korea plans to establish trading relations with all Communist countries including the People's Republic of China.

There is obviously great distrust of America in Seoul. South Korea is now taking the initiative so that she is not caught between two stools if the Americans should ever decide to withdraw from Korea.

The tiny British crown colony of Hong Kong has welcomed the admission of the People's Republic of China into the United Nations, though it looks to the future with mixed feelings.

Christian Roll

(Kleiner Nachrichten, 1 December 1971)

Defense Minister Schmidt stresses Asia's importance

Will the Federal Republic embark upon a more active policy towards Asia and once and for all increase its political involvement in an area of the world that is growing in importance every day, Defence Minister Helmut Schmidt asked.

"Europe's political stability also depends on Asia's most urgent economic and social problems being solved," the Minister added.

Returning from unofficial visits to Thailand, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, Schmidt said that his fourteen-day tour should be seen as proof of this country's concern for Asia.

At a press conference held at the end of his talks with representatives of the Japanese government Schmidt emphasised the problems arising from the shifts in bloc structure.

New groups such as Europe, Japan and the People's Republic of China were shooting up with surprising rapidity to challenge the supreme position of the United States and the Soviet Union. Minister Schmidt added that Japan and the Federal Republic were thus faced by a large number of similar problems.

Security problems in Asia and the Pacific area, the international currency crisis and questions of disarmament therefore formed the basis of his talks with Premier Sato, Foreign Minister Fukuda, Defence Minister Nishimura and Diet President Funada.

The international currency crisis was discussed with particular concern at Helmut Schmidt's talks on the eve of the meeting of the Council of Ten.

Schmidt stated that the solution of this issue was of overwhelming importance for foreign policy in both Tokyo and Bonn. There was not much time for this, he added, obviously referring to the American presidential elections which are coming closer and closer.

The two sides once again stressed that the crisis can only be solved on a multinational level. The Japanese government thus denied rumours that Japan had taken the initiative in Rome.

Finally, Defence Minister Schmidt announced that Prime Minister Sato had expressed the wish to meet Chancellor Brandt in Japan.

This invitation should be of importance in view of the new generation of politicians growing up in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. This group supports a revision and intensification of Japanese policy towards Asia.

Looking at things from an Asian point of view, it is hard to say whether West Germany's policy towards Asia really is as lively as Schmidt claims.

(Handelsblatt, 30 November 1971)

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■ OSTPOLITIK

Bahr and Kohl seek simple, swift and favourable settlement

Inter-German talks to fill in the outlines of the Four-Power agreement on the future of Berlin are on the finishing straight. At the talks between State Secretaries Egon Bahr and Michael Kohl on "transit traffic of civilians and freight between the western sectors of Berlin and the Federal Republic of Germany" not all problems have been solved down to the last detail, but at least the problems have now been brought out into the open and it is known where to start looking for the answers.

Meantime the Bonn Opposition parties have expressed what they understand by a satisfactory inter-German settlement. Their demands centre round some of the more tricky problems, but they are not always realistic.

For instance their insistence that the German Democratic Republic should waive enforced visas.

As a matter of fact the ambassadorial agreement speaks of the "simplest, speediest and most favourable international practice", presumably something along the lines of the passage of traffic across the Rhine between Strasbourg in France and Kehl in West Germany.

But the umbrella agreement does not expressly mention the renunciation of transit visas, nor did the Allies come out strongly in favour of this. On this point Egon Bahr has not been able to achieve any further advances on what concessions the Allies gained.

On the other hand it seems likely that Egon Bahr has managed to arrange for these visas to be issued on an all-in payment basis. This had been another bone of contention, since the wording of the agreement was considered ambiguous by finicky legal eagles.

For the CDU/CSU — and to a large extent the Opposition is in agreement

with the government on this point — the most important factor is coming to an agreement on border abuses. As far as goods traffic is concerned the difficulties arising are not so much of a legalistic as of a technical nature.

On this score too the general principle of the umbrella agreement applies, namely that the whole procedure should be carried out as simply, swiftly and favourably as possible.

This can be achieved by the sealing of the means of transport. Then the only checks necessary will be to see if the seals are intact and the accompanying papers are in order. The border abuses clause will be non-applicable.

Thus in the interest of speedy transit it is essential that as many vehicles as possible should be sealed. The technical problem is that there are so many lorries and such that cannot so easily be sealed. So in many cases it will be a question of building the right kind of vehicle.

This not only requires a law to be passed, it also involves finding money. And if the process of sealing lorries, trains and barges is going to be too complicated, costly and time-consuming then all the advantages gained by no longer having to fiddle around with GDR border officials and their bureaucracy will be lost again.

Thus we must devise procedures that fulfil West German economic requirements and East German security precautions.

What is much more difficult is the problem of abuses when it concerns not freight but human beings. In the text of the agreement there is mention of searches, arrest and expulsion only being allowed in cases "where there are sufficient grounds for suspicion that there has been an abuse of the transit routes for purposes

not directly concerned with the passage through (to West Berlin) . . . and running contrary to the general regulations with regard to public order."

The initial line taken by the GDR was that the question of public order, mentioned only once in the agreement, should apply to all sections of the negotiations. The GDR negotiators understood this to apply to all East German laws.

As far as transit traffic was concerned this would have meant that not only criminals, but also people who had broken East German laws would be guilty of "abuse". According to this formulation refugees from the GDR would have been arrested or sent back.

Bonn found this unacceptable and the Opposition was quite right in insisting that the matter of abuse should not apply to actions during transit.

The case of criminals, judged as such by both sides, travelling between West Berlin and West Germany is a completely different kettle of fish. Can the GDR be expected to allow free transit to criminals? Legal minds could insist that the GDR is forced to allow this according to the wording of the Berlin agreement, since their crimes and misdemeanours would have nothing to do directly with the matter of transit.

Practical politicians consider it quite possible that the GDR will simply send back the criminal elements. What must be avoided is expulsions of a political nature, otherwise this would be used as a back door for further selectivity based on political considerations.

Difficulties also surround the accurate definition of apolitical transit procedures and their consequences. What will happen to a motorist who does not stick to the letter of the highway code? What about a driver who plans to set out on the transit roads in an inebriated condition? On points such as this it will not be easy to reach a settlement to keep both sides happy.

Bahr and Kohl have a lot of ground to cover still, but a successful conclusion seems to be in sight. Rolf Zundel

(Die Zeit, 3 December 1971)

Berlin agreement need not be hindered

Handelsblatt
WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG
Industriekurier

When the part of the Berlin agreement worked out jointly by Bonn, the Berlin senate and East Berlin is available it will be up to the Four Powers to decide where to go from there.

At any rate the Bonn government will have a role to play in this decision as adviser. This is a point people should bear in mind before they accuse the Soviet Union of trying to impose special conditions.

The four wartime allies will have to check whether the results of the inter-German negotiations tally with the conditions laid down in the Four-Power umbrella agreement in which many basic details were fully taken care of.

Then they will move on to the signing of the definitive protocol of the Berlin agreement, which is already on hand.

The fact that the Soviet Union is once again insisting on a temporal link between the implementation of the Berlin Agreement and the ratification of the West German-Soviet treaty may be a hindrance and have the appearance of making an inroad into the parliamentary machinery of the Federal Republic. But it is understandable.

Russia wants to be doubly secure. Bonn Foreign Minister Walter Scheel has countered this request with the suggestion that at the outset the Four Powers should simply declare that the Berlin agreement has been fulfilled and can no longer be amended.

The agreement would then become valid after the ratification of the West German-Soviet Treaty of Moscow. This is a path that can surely be taken by all concerned.

(Handelsblatt, 1 December 1971)

Who goes first, is the Kremlin problem

Political business dealings are not so vastly different from any other form of business — everyone wants to have the goods in his hands before he forks out. Thus the Soviet Union considers it better that the Federal Republic should ratify the Moscow Treaty before Moscow finally gives its seal of approval to the talks on Berlin.

Bonn would rather have it the other way round — Berlin first, Moscow Treaty second. As for Nato, the satisfactory wrapping up of the Berlin problem is a prerequisite for preparations for a European security conference to begin.

Obviously it is important who delivers the goods first. Mistrust is still rife. The speed at which East-West relations now develop could depend on the procedure in the future.

The definitive confirmation of the Berlin settlement by all powers would make it simpler for the Federal government to push through the debates on the Moscow and Warsaw Treaties in the Bundestag.

Differences of opinion about how the whole machinery of the treaty should be built up are nevertheless not worth getting excessively excited about.

Experience has taught us that in the end everything will come off at more or less the same time. Soon afterwards it will be difficult to remember that there ever was any bother about it.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 30 November 1971)

Scheel sticks out for Berlin settlement before ratification

Bonn Foreign Minister Walter Scheel returned on 30 November from his three-day official visit to the Soviet Union. On arrival Scheel expressed his conviction that the binding link created by this country between a Berlin settlement and ratification of the East Bloc treaties was "without qualification correct".

Otherwise it would not have been possible for a Berlin settlement of any kind to have been reached at this time. The question of when and how the final version of the Berlin settlement should be agreed is something that the Four Powers will not have to debate among themselves.

What may the Federal Republic require a settlement of the Berlin Question before it sets about ratifying the treaties with the East Bloc States.

While in Moscow Walter Scheel conferred with Communist Party Secretary Leonid Brezhnev, Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko — Scheel will shortly be telling the Cabinet of the results of his talks in Moscow.

With regard to the forthcoming Nato conference, Scheel stressed the Nato allies would have to hold talks to discuss whether it was already possible to speak of a successful Berlin settlement.

This, he said, was a matter for all member countries, particularly those closest allied to the Federal Republic.

The central topic discussed in Moscow was the Soviet government's "counter-link". Moscow stuck out for a temporal link between ratification of the Moscow and Warsaw Treaties by the Bundestag

Furthermore the communiqué states that the present situation in Europe is "favourable ground for calling a European security conference".

It was stated that all concerned should "begin the multilateral preparations for this conference as speedily as possible".

On the question of the possible reduction of troop strength it was stated that both sides were agreed that such an agreement could be of mutual advantage, could make a decided contribution to the securing of peace in Europe and thereby could lead to lasting relaxation of tension.

"Less satisfaction" was expressed, according to German sources in Moscow, on the matter of the repatriation of German families and Soviet citizens with German nationality living in the Soviet Union.

According to Moscow sources Herr Scheel urged his Soviet colleagues to solve this problem once and for all. He underlined to Gromyko the significance of this question for home affairs and handed him a list with 250 sample cases of hardship in which the Soviet authorities had so far refused exit permits.

Gromyko simply promised to look into the matter. This is no more than Premier Kosygin promised Willy Brandt last August in Moscow.

According to the West German mission in Moscow Kosygin has not yet come up with the promised far-reaching answer. And Egon Bahr, on his visit to Orenda for talks with the Soviet leaders, also broached this matter and called for a solution to be found.

The intention to bring the Federal Republic and German Democratic Republic into the train of détente moves in Europe and hence into the United Nations is underlined.

(Münchner-Merkur, 1 December 1971)

■ GDR

New leaders come to the fore in East Berlin

There has been a reshuffle of the East German leadership since last May when Walter Ulbricht was more or less forced to resign the First Secretaryship. Two men now stand in the spotlight — Ulbricht's successor as First Secretary, 59-year-old Erich Honecker, and Willi Stoph's First Deputy on the Ministerial Council, 56-year-old Horst Sindermann. Stoph himself, though belonging to the same generation, has receded into the background in recent months, weakened by a persistent kidney disorder.

A meeting of the People's Chamber on 26 November showed the insignificance into which the post of Chairman of the

State Council has sunk since Ulbricht's re-election even though East German law reserves full powers to the holder.

The re-elected Ulbricht, bound by the constitution to propose the man to fill the post of Chairman of the Ministerial Council, sat as a lonely man on the benches reserved for the State Council after the exertions of his twenty-minute speech.

Erich Honecker, First Secretary of the Socialist Unity Party (SED), strode to the speaker's rostrum and, though not authorised by the constitution to put forward the candidate nor acting as the SED's Parliamentary Chairman, proposed to the applause of the House that Willi Stoph should once again be entrusted with the formation of the government.

This scene did not last two minutes but it showed who really is in power in the German Democratic Republic. Was this the first indication that Honecker himself wants to be Chairman of the State Council?

The post is no more than a facade under the ailing Ulbricht as was revealed by the election of the 77-year-old former Social Democrat Friedrich Ebert, a member of the SED politburo, as First Deputy to the Chairman of the State Council.

Ebert, no longer cherishing any ambitions concerning political power but the father figure required for the post by the SED, will have the duty of fulfilling the representative obligations of the Chairman of the State Council in Ulbricht's place.

To complete the coordination of the new State Council with the new SED leadership, Honecker has had himself voted on to the State Council along with sixty-year-old Paul Werner, head of the Central Committee Security Department and one of Honecker's closest colleagues.

Some observers had already written off the veteran revolutionary Walter Ulbricht. He had left the party chairmanship in May and a month later the People's Chamber surprisingly elected the new party chairman, Erich Honecker, Chairman of the National Defence Council in place of Ulbricht.

In view of his health at the age of 78, many people thought it only a matter of time before he would willingly or unwillingly give up his third major appointment, that of Chairman of the State Council.

The most appropriate and most merciful moment for this seemed to be the re-election of the Chairman of the State Council prescribed by the constitution after the elections to the People's Chamber.

Ulbricht was already seen as a pensioner comfortably sitting out the last years of his life on the veranda of his dacha in the exclusive Wandlitz, just outside Berlin.

A picture taken of him last June when his political heirs came to congratulate him on his birthday was published to show the population that it could expect nothing more of this sick, old man.

The agitprop functionaries allowed scarcely one line about Ulbricht to pass them. Only occasionally would readers learn that the Chairman of the State Council had sent someone his congratulations or expressed his sympathy. He only started to make news again after Brezhnev's last visit to East Berlin.

The opposition that Ulbricht met in the politburo for the first time, may have been overcome from another sector. The

Verner, like Honecker an Ulbricht protégé and for years a rival of Honecker's within the party, is today the second most important man in the SED leadership after Honecker.

Like Honecker, he prefers to appear straightforward and objective. Like Honecker, his relations with the intelligentsia are governed by a subconscious inferiority complex.

Both are experts in manipulating the governing apparatus, both are absolutely loyal to the Soviet Union. "The test of loyalty to Marxism-Leninism is our relationship to the USSR," Werner once stated.

Though Willi Stoph has once again taken over the chairmanship of the Ministerial Council, it has been said maliciously for some time now that he is a man with a future behind him.

But even the ailing Stoph is indispensable to the SED. Long before the new style on objectivity began to make its breakthrough in the post-Ulbricht era, Stoph was the one member of the SED leadership to take an objective, realistic view of the GDR's position, particularly its economic position. Pragmatist Stoph has little time for Ulbricht's theory of the Socialist People's Community.

Since the May 1971 reshuffle in the SED leadership Stoph has had another First Deputy alongside economics specialist Alfred Neumann.

The new man is Horst Sindermann, the First Secretary of the SED in the Halle district which he has built up into a model Socialist district.

Sindermann is the second most important political figure in the governing apparatus next to Stoph and is thought of as his possible successor. Popular like few other SED functionaries, he embodied a new style of leadership even when a branch secretary.

Written off Ulbricht makes a comeback

GDR's public opinion pollsters found that Ulbricht is today more popular than ever before among East Germans.

There is a simple reason for this. Honecker's course is felt by the population to be hard, harder at any rate than people today remember the many years under an active Ulbricht.

Ulbricht is the great creator of the State and its wise father. The propaganda of the earlier period also did everything it could to present Ulbricht's human and paternal image.

Whether he wanted to or not, SED boss Honecker had to propose that the grand old man should once again be entrusted with the chairmanship of the State Council.

Ulbricht stood at the speaker's rostrum, though not as the active fighter he once was. He was still feeling the effects of his illness, he looked tired and read from notes in a weak voice.

His final departure from the political stage has been postponed for the time being but nobody knows for how long. But the entire party executive and senior deputies know that the spoils have already been divided.

Deputies in the People's Chamber applauded for minutes on end after Ulbricht had been re-elected and the President of the People's Chamber, Götting, wished him "much creative power and long years of good health".

The Honecker-Verner leadership team in the party apparatus and the Stoph-Sindermann team in the government have a lot in common. Within the space of a few months they have developed a new style of leadership that indirectly contains the most violent criticism of Ulbricht that has ever become known.

All four of them are sober and objective. They seek to establish contact with the population and no longer conceal difficulties where these are evident.

They seem to have realised that the success of their policies largely depends on ending or at least improving the constant supply difficulties and on departing once and for all from costly

Frankfurter Rundschau

economic efforts of the Ulbricht era to be self-sufficient vis-à-vis the Federal Republic.

A symptomatic feature of this policy is the decline of the influence of technocrats in the party and governing apparatus. Günter Mittag, the man responsible for economic policy in the SED politburo and the subject of much criticism in recent months, was not re-elected to the State Council.

The departure from Mittag's policy began a few months ago when it was decided to use the GDR's Western currency reserves for the import of consumer articles as well as investment goods and end the costly build-up of a consumer goods production that would be independent of the West.

These decisions more than anything else reflect the change of the political situation that is gradually beginning to assert itself in inter-German relations thanks to the Ostpolitik conducted by the Brandt-Scheel government.

The new leaders in East Berlin no longer fear being exposed to economic embargo measures on the part of the Federal Republic and believe the time has now come to shake off the effects of the Cold War.

Annunziata Doherty
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 29 November 1971)

All this might have been a genuine expression of sympathy but it does not alter the fact that East Berlin has long ago made provisions in the event of Ulbricht being unable to continue in office for reasons of death or sickness.

It is rumoured in official circles in East Berlin that Prime Minister Willi Stoph would become Chairman of the State Council in this case and continue to exercise some of the duties of his present post.

Horst Sindermann, up to now the Prime Minister's First Deputy, is expected to succeed him to the post of Chairman of the Ministerial Council.

But the balance of power would be changed if there were to be a new governing troika consisting of Stoph at the State Council, Sindermann in the Ministerial Council and Honecker in the National Defence Council.

The shift would not be due to the Chairman of the National Defence Council being the same man as the party head but to the fact that Sindermann and Honecker have close personal ties going back to their time in the leadership of the FDJ, the East German youth organisation.

Stoph would run the danger of isolation in a situation of this type. Television viewers seeing his tired, unmoving face and observers noticing how unimpressed he was by the deputies who were congratulating him were unable to rid themselves of the idea that he was counting up his friends at that moment. There cannot have been many.

H. U. Kersten
(Lübecker Nachrichten, 28 November 1971)

■ POLITICS

CSU attempts to change its image



The last election campaign seemed to show that the intellectual world in this country was completely committed to the Social Democratic Party. Writers, theatre people and even television comedians drummed up support for Willy Brandt's party if, that is, they did not think it too right-wing for them.

To give one's vote to the CDU/CSU, especially the CSU, was tantamount to ruining one's reputation. But this is now to change. The CSU is tired of being rarely voted for, it also wants to be liked by those people who obviously count — by artists, professors, writers, journalists and all those celebrities that are "society".

Courting the sympathy essential to it and recently achieved its first success. The CSU press office announced that representatives of the party, with one of the deputy leaders and the secretary-general at their head, had met members of Bavaria's musical world to discuss the current situation.

Three days after these harmonious talks about subsidising orchestras in Bavaria and promoting contemporary productions Franz Josef Strauss himself came on the scene.

The CSU had invited more than one hundred celebrities ranging from film-star Uchi Glas to C.F. von Weizsäcker to establish contacts with them and hear their ideas on the party's political activities.

Cultural activities of this type led to a meeting with the Writers Association this time. Talks with creative and productive artists are to follow.

The background is the same in every case. One of the prime reasons is the annoyance felt at being so outstripped in this field in recent years by political opponents with their "voter initiatives". But there is doubtless more to it than that. A certain degree of unrest is slowly beginning to creep into party ranks after many years of self-satisfaction in which the CSU joyfully observed increased support and rejoiced that there were next to no issues leading to doubts among its members.

The party is no longer as thick-skinned against constant intellectual scorn as it was. Many of the more fastidious members are hurt by the fact that their party with its right-wing views is being largely ignored in theoretical discussions.

The CSU's broadly based campaign to establish contacts with all sectors of society is without doubt one of the results of this unrest. Talks with trade

unions were started to counter accusations that the party was a party representing management.

Similarly, contacts were sought with the intellectual world. Suspicions that the CSU has nothing in common with poets and other thinkers should now be refuted on an official level and during informal gatherings.

It was plain from the very outset that these moves would not remain unanswered. Independent writers and artists have no parliamentary lobby and cannot afford to ignore the offer by a large political party to discuss their problems with them.

Political differences — Dieter Lattmann, the head of the Writers Association, is a committed Social Democrat — should play no part here. The fact that Strauss' social moves are meeting with a great response is even less of a surprise.

Anyone knowing actors, artists and even writers will have never considered them all to be intellectuals, not to mention left-wing intellectuals. If they are not altogether apolitical, they tend to adopt a conservative view or at least listen understandingly to their managers when they explain how important it is to show themselves with the politicians in power, whatever their party.

It is therefore relevant to ask whether the CSU already considers as successful the easy establishment of these contacts with their doubtless beneficial effects for the party's image and future election campaigns or whether it sees the contacts as the actual start to a long overdue "intellectual rearmament".

There are some indications of real efforts being made here. The talks with

DU members express doubts about CDU

DIE WELT

Deutsche Union (DU) recently held its first "Deutschlandkongress" since the party was established last June, no more than six months ago.

Three hundred and fifty party members, most of them from the immediate vicinity, crowded into the plain banquet hall of the Mülheim Stadthalle for the day-long congress.

Journalist William S. Schlamme delivered the opening address from the stage that had been specially decorated in black, red and gold, the colours of the German flag.

But is the new party flourishing or is it on the verge of extinction? Deputy leader Rudolf Wollner from Wiesbaden announced a number of successes.

Local branches of the DU have been set up so far in North Rhine-Westphalia, Lower Saxony and Bavaria, he stated, adding that branches in Hesse and Rhineland-Palatinate would be set up on the weekend immediately following the congress.

Groups should have been formed in Baden-Württemberg, Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg, Bremen and the Saar by January 1972. Subordinate groups were being set up everywhere at local district level, he said, and membership now totalled 3,500.

Kurt Meyer, a member of the executive of the North Rhine-Westphalia branch of

Sixty per cent want unity

According to an Allensbach survey most people in West Germany would like to see the Germans reunited. Sixty per cent would like to live in an undivided State with the people of the German Democratic Republic.

Thirty per cent said that this was no longer really worth striving for. Ten per cent said they had not made up their minds. The survey was ordered by the Bonn government.

(Die Welt, 26 November 1971)

West German Communists hold first party conference

The first party congress held by West German Communists since the DKP was founded in the spring of 1969 took place in an atmosphere of self-praise with a little self-criticism and bursts of rhythmic applause at every appropriate opportunity.

A symbolic embrace between leader Kurt Bachmann and Max Reimann, the head of the KPD before it was banned, showed the six hundred and more delegates in Düsseldorf's Congress Hall, resplendent with red flags and dominated by a giant photograph of a worker, that the DKP has now received the blessing of the old party.

But it was when Reimann was elected honorary president of the DKP that the unanimity of the congress was broken. Jörg Goldberg, a young white-collar worker from Cologne, was the only delegate to vote against the former DKP leader. He explained that he had nothing against Reimann personally but objected to the DKP having an honorary president.

The party congress, intended to demonstrate the unanimity of the 33,410 DKP members, did not spend any time discussing the 44-point programme for the party's future strategy.

These had been discussed previously by factory and local groups according to the Communist principle of democratic centralism (now called inner-party democracy) and the finishing touches had been provided by party headquarters in Düsseldorf.

In what passed as a discussion at the party congress the DKP cell within the Ford works in Cologne explained how workers could be won over to the party. Point one of their programme was full pay for the Monday before Lent, a public holiday in that area.

Whenever speakers met with little response from grass-roots level, the DKP executives would read out greetings telegrams from North Vietnam or the metalworkers strike front and be sure of thunderous applause.

Guests from allied parties were also invited to the speaker's rostrum out of turn in order to inspire some enthusiasm. Arvad Pelshe, a politburo member from Moscow, was greeted with persistent chants of *Dritzbau* as he handed over a bust of Lenin.

Deputy leader Herbert Mies lifted the bronze head as if it were a football trophy and his eyes became damp as the delegates, ranging from young girls in minis to veteran Communists with greying temples, raised their fists and broke into the *Internationale*.

There was a repeat of this ritual when Albert Norden, the chief propagandist of the East German Socialist Unity Party, presented the DKP with a plush tapestry bearing a portrait of the former Communist leader Ernst Thälmann.

DKP bosses and guests like Pelshe and Norden disappeared to their carefully isolated rooms after their exertions. Cries of champagne were dragged into the rooms of the upper classes while the run-of-the-mill party member queued for his beer or coffee.

F. Kassebeer
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27 November 1971)

SPD/FDP drop two points

The Bonn government dropped two points in the popularity charts from September to October this year. While 52 per cent of the population considered the SPD/FDP coalition "very good" or "good" in September, only fifty per cent gave those favourable judgments in October, according to a survey conducted

by the Ennid Institute of Bielefeld. In the same month the SPD dropped three points from 38 to 35 per cent, the CDU/CSU chalked up 36 per cent as in the previous month and the FDP improved its position by one point, moving from five to six per cent.

(Die Welt, 26 November 1971)

■ THE ARTS

Intricacies of holography explained to photographers

Cologne once again pressed forward its claim to be a photographic centre of international importance when Nobel prizewinner Dennis Gabor, a Hungarian now living in London, explained the origin of holography.

His short talk was given at a reception given by the Photographical Association to celebrate its twentieth anniversary and present physicist Gabor and stage designer Josef Svoboda with the cultural prizes awarded annually by the Association.

The Association considers itself to be a type of photographic academy dealing with subjects ranging from physical and technical research and scientific application to documentation, information, pictorial journalism and artistic and journalistic creation.

It is also proud of the fact that the winner of this year's award was later found worthy of the Nobel Prize. Gerhard Schröder, the head of the Association described the coincidence as something that would not occur again for at least a century.

But what is holography actually? The people attending the reception in Cologne were given the opportunity of studying a practical example among the photographic exhibitions in the city's Gürzenich.

An apparatus had been set up in the hall to project a portrait of the prizewinner on to a screen by means of a laser beam and special lens system.

Though beamed on to a two-dimensional surface, the picture appeared three-dimensional. It looked as if it was hovering freely in the space behind the screen. Perspective was so sharp it could almost be felt.

A hologram is therefore a pictorial representation grasping the whole of the object. Dennis Gabor chose the Greek word *holos* - whole - for his discovery.

The natural perspective is retained on the screen as the hologram divides the

Frankfurter Allgemeine

pictorial information into three dimensions with the help of the laser beam.

However much anyone looking at the picture changes his position, observing it from below or from the side, the realistic effect is retained.

This faithful reproduction of spatial characteristics, thought at first to be no more than a photographic gimmick, opens up new and previously unknown paths for the future.

The new process can be used when examining materials, analysing stress, and producing transistors and circuits. It will also be of future benefit for the three-dimensional film and television.

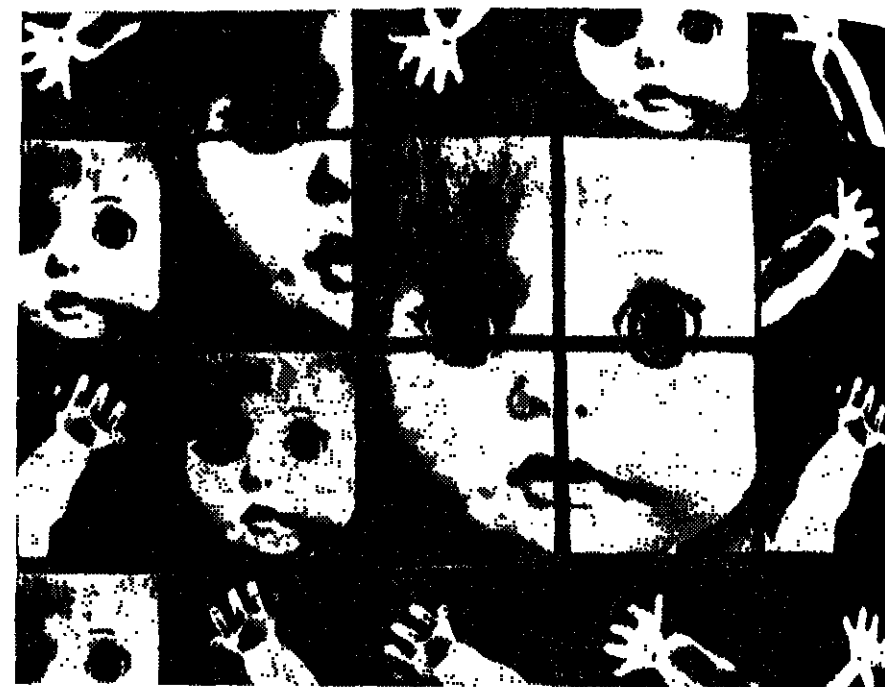
Physicist Dennis Gabor sounded optimistic in Cologne when he spoke of the possibilities offered by holography in the field of creative art.

Gabor said that it was particularly remarkable that he had received the Association's award along with stage designer Josef Svoboda who had extended the stage's opportunities of expression by means of modern multivision and background projection with the aid of photography.

Gabor believes that his own technical and physical invention could act as a medium opening up new areas to art.

He chatted of the procedure leading up to his invention with a type of pleasant understatement that made out his findings to be no more than the chance result of coincidences, accidents and strokes of luck.

He did not invent holography while shaving one morning, as he said, but during work with an electron microscope. He was unable to forgive himself for not developing this microscope that other researchers had constructed partly with the aid of his instruments.



Stage design by Josef Svoboda for a Frankfurt theatre

(Photo: Keystone)

Gabor published the basic principle of holography as early as 1948 at a time when he had only inadequate sources of light available to him. The ideal source was found in 1960 when the constant laser beam was invented, opening up surprising new fields of application in research, industry and, Gabor believes, art.

The Photographical Association was established in Cologne in 1951. Gerhard Schröder has been its president since 1954 and the Association has awarded its cultural prizes since 1959.

The awards are greatly respected throughout the world as they are not prizes for photographers or rewards for outstanding photographic work. Scientific and technical work has its place alongside creative photography.

The Association's practical activities have continually increased in range and importance in the twenty years of its existence. Work can be divided into four sectors.

The picture section consists of practical photographers who deal mainly with technical and artistic problems, arranging meetings and international discussions. One of the most recent was a congress

held in Oberkochen in July 1971 to debate the future of photography.

The research section consists of scientists who report on the results of their research, maintain international links and award the annual Robert Luther Prize to young scientists for work in the field of photography.

The historical section is trying to push forward plans for setting up central archives for the history of photography in Munich's Stadtmuseum.

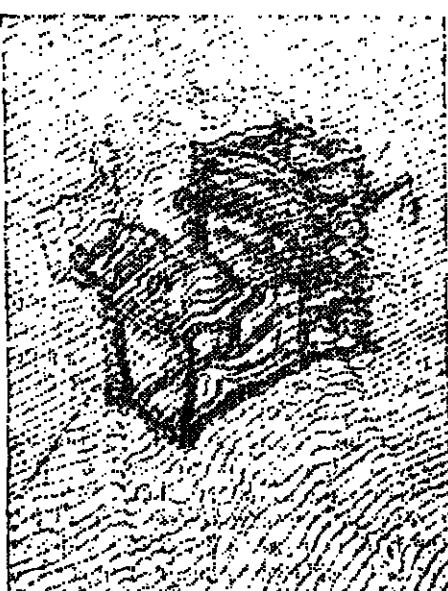
The medical section deals with the opportunities offered by photography in treatment and diagnostic work.

The Dr Erich Salomon Prize was awarded this year for the first time. Salomon was one of the outstanding press photographers of the twenties and thirties who helped found a new style of historical picture documentation in Berlin and other centres of European politics. Press photography has now become an established part of contemporary documentation and information because of Salomon's work.

Photographer Robert Lebeck received the award on behalf of the Stern photographic team.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 16 November 1971)

Lithographers honour Master Senefelder



A Thomas Bayrle Lithograph

hibitions devoted to him can now be seen in Karlsruhe, Munich, Offenbach and Frankfurt.

An exhibition in Frankfurt's Haus Dornbusch organised by Christian Goldberg also lays flowers on Senefelder's tomb. Twenty-eight artists ranging from Horst Antes to Mac Zimmermann are exhibiting 55 of their works alongside a lithographed landscape produced by the master in 1830.

The painstakingly prepared catalogue reveals that the stone engraved by Senefelder with the landscape is now kept in Munich's Deutsches Museum because of its rarity value as probably the only lithostone artistically fashioned by Senefelder. For the two hundredth anniversary of his birth a lithographic firm transferred the drawing on to a second lithostone and printed 220 copies.

Senefelder, born in Prague on 6 November 1771 could never even have dreamed of the respect that would be paid him when as an actor and playwright in Munich in 1799 he invented a method to reproduce his scripts and music quickly and cheaply.

This opened up to the painters and cartoonists of his time unexpected and varied opportunities of expression that

could not be gained from the usual graphic techniques of woodcutting and etching.

Senefelder's revolutionary invention at a time when museums were founded and the first public art exhibitions were held heralded the democratisation of art which has reached its peak today in the pop art motto of "art for all".

The exhibition in Haus Dornbusch prompts visitors to turn to the history and technique of this most modern of the classical graphic methods.

Alongside splendid examples of original colour lithographies by Paul Wunderlich, Pfeiffer-Watenpohl, Bargheer, Rudolf Hausner, Bernhard Jäger and Christian Kruck the most interesting items are the eight Senefelder Anniversary prints including an amusing montage by Dahmen called *Grieks Gott, Meister Senefelder!* and based on the *Complete Text Book of Stone Printing* published by Senefelder in 1818.

Explaining his print, Dahmen stated that Senefelder's homeland was green and sometimes very hairy and he tried to express this by the use of intensive green hues and a tuft of the black hairs from a paint-brush.

Pop posters with art nouveau elements



Friedrich Gross' Monstrum humanum. Both lithographs from the series displayed at the exhibition Graphik im Haus Dornbusch.

produced by Klaus Moritz remind visitors to the exhibition that modern applied art, especially poster art, is unthinkable without lithography.

The dolly lion and dog's Rolls-Royce inviting people to the exhibition can be bought for ten Marks. The prints exhibit are also for sale at prices ranging from forty to nine hundred Marks.

Christa Spatz

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 November 1971)

■ ENTERTAINMENT

Folksinger Judy Collins wows Frankfurt

It's a miracle how a song can find its way through chaos to impart simplicity," said Judy Collins about the song "Winter Sky", thus giving us two clues to her relationship to the folksong.

This song was produced by its own energy making it possible to create it without the normal procedures of composition. Judy Collins does not do a great deal of composing, and when she composes she does so to a certain extent effortlessly.

The second clue to Judy Collins and the folksong concerns the musical language itself. Plain and simple melodies without any great adornment, naive and intentionally uncomplicated are typical of the songs Judy Collins sings with a degree of musical sense that seems self-evident with her immaculately pure voice.

Judy, 32, has twelve years of professional singing experience behind her, but it is only in the past three years that she has reached the position that others have achieved earlier with "force-feeding".

Her past life is not likely to arouse any feelings of envy - poliomyelitis at twelve, tuberculosis at the age of 23 and a failed marriage are just the most evident points in a life that all in all can scarcely be described as trouble-free.

She does not need to put on an act when she describes herself as *A Maid of Constant Sorrow* and says that she has looked at life from *Both Sides Now* or sings of bitter experiences in love.

And the outspoken pacifism and political involvement that crop up in half her songs are not just empty theorising.

It is precisely because she does not launch into a great campaign and does not hammer out fomenting revolution, while satisfying the highest artistic demands that she has achieved something that generations of so-called protest singers and "involved" musicians tried to achieve in vain.

She has managed to combine and reconcile an aesthetically pleasing sound with a deep feeling for humanity. Judy Collins is the Florence Nightingale of the Anglo-American folksong.

Her "Vietnam Love Song", the highlight of her repertoire on her present, last guest appearance in West Germany at Frankfurt's Jahrhunderthalle, is a shining condemnation of man's inhumanity to man precisely because no threat is uttered, no polemics are thundered out, guilt is pinned on anyone and no one rotates himself to the position of moral judge.

For this sphere of her musical offering that she said years ago by way of interpretation of the song "The Dove" applies: "War is a mistake. This is something Man must say without qualification. It is not possible to set degrees by putting this to anything else."

This sentiment is not obvious from the

words for all her songs and yet her love songs and folksongs complement the humanitarian idea that never lapses into sentimentality.

She sings with a simple, natural clear soprano voice, and is respectably backed by a trio consisting of piano, bass and drums. Schubert would have liked to have Judy Collins around in his day!

The success of her first appearance in West Germany is partly due to the atmosphere created by the "Folklore International" festival as a whole. This has been organised by Hesse Broadcasting and includes folk musicians from Rumania, Britain and Sweden. This framework was no framework as such and yet it went far further towards providing a balanced programme than many concert line-ups.

Georghe Zamfir, the Rumanian pipes-of-Pan player opened the show with his group (cymbals, clarinet, fiddle and bass). His own instrument consists of twenty wooden tubes and produces the kind of sound that unfortunately many groups with a mission to put across folk culture avoid.

The audience was keen to show its appreciation and the applause showed that in its opinion the Swedish fiddlers Björn Staabi and Pers Hans were far from outdone by the Rumanian pipe player, even though this music must have been quite unknown to the public in Frankfurt.

In the Anglo-American world the folksong as a fashionable thing now has such a firm place that it is not surprising that a popular duo like Simon and Garfunkel have numerous imitators.

There was the Anglo-Scottish group with the traditional name "Magna Carta" (which has been in existence eighteen months, and not just seven as the announcer told us).

It may be fair to say that the singing of Chris Simpson and Glen Stuart tends towards the decadent and derivative, but this would not be true of Davey Johnstone's brilliant mastery of the most diverse stringed instruments (guitar, sitar and mandoline).

Johnstone was good enough for Johnny Dankworth and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, London, to record with him at any rate. The charm and appeal of his playing helped make this concert one of the highlights of the present Frankfurt concert season.

Wolfgang Sandner

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, für Deutschland, 25 November 1971)



A scene from Jean Anouilh's *N'oubliez pas madame* produced in Hamburg (Photo: Rosemarie Clausen)

Great cast in a disappointing Anouilh play in Hamburg

Elisabeth Flickenschmidt, Will Quadflieg and Hermann Schomburg brought a touch of the Grindgens era back to the Deutsches Schauspielhaus in Hamburg.

The Hamburg audience gave them a rapturous round of applause at the start and many were moved to see again the old guard from the good old days of the theatre.

Nevertheless this premiere of Jean Anouilh's *N'oubliez pas madame* (entitled in German "Wecken Sie Madame nicht auf") was not such a resounding success as might have been expected.

Once again Anouilh takes one of his old themes, theatre within the theatre. The central character is Julien, a theatrical director in Paris. The scene all the way through is his stage - and the wings where rehearsals take place, which do change.

Julien is a highly-strung, nervous theatre fanatic, a tyrant, old divorcee and moralist.

He possesses the perverse charm of a Henry Higgins. Most women find him quite adorable. But Julien's passion is centred round the theatre. This causes the breakup of his two marriages and his family life with his two children.

The plot is evolved by means of flashbacks, insertion and superimpositions. Anouilh is a master craftsman in entertainment.

He has Julien and his wives rehearse three plays on the stage, a Russian love-story, a village pastoral idyll and William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*.

This gives the actors the opportunity to slip into several new roles. The interest grows from the conflict between reality and stage role.

For two acts this "Change-partners" game is a *pièce rose*, but in the last act it becomes a *pièce noire*. At the end Julien is a broken man, sitting on Hamlet's seat. He is alone, a failure.

Anouilh's characters are left alone. They are successful, but success does not bring them happiness. The pessimism of life expressed in Anouilh's work is romantic and thus scarcely tangible, so that it fails to touch the audiences of today.

What corresponded to the general feeling for life back in the fifties, Anouilh's great period, today seems like a claim that can never be met in a world that has become more fragmented. It is not our failure nor our experience of loneliness that Anouilh is describing.

It is the cast we have to thank for the surprisingly good moments of this evening's drama. Elisabeth Flickenschmidt played Julien's mother who stifles her fear of growing old with a veneer of gaiety and grandiose postures.

Will Quadflieg as Julien was supreme in the way he portrayed coldness, irony and nervousness. An actor and actress who really held the stage.

The two wives of Julien were well set-off against each other. Gertraud Jeserzer played the simple country girl with Marisa Hörbiger as the pert husky.

But it was Hermann Schomburg in the role of the prompter who was really outstanding. He is a pleasant old man who loves to trot out tales of his adventures with women in years gone by. He is a bit of a loner and rather despises the world. He has cooked up his own philosophy.

The prompter, Tonton, is not part of the action. He nestles up with the audience. And as for the audience, even the back row could have no complaints this time, as voice projection was excellent.

Willi Schmidt's mise-en-scène is equally polished and he was also responsible for costume design which was quite respectable.

Erika Brenken

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 15 November 1971)

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First time lucky

Peter Härtling's first play *Gilles* has earned him the Gerhart Hauptmann Prize, worth 8,000, awarded by the Freie Volksbühne in West Berlin.

This play, which the author calls "a costume piece" concerns the French Revolution of 1789 as seen by an eighty-year-old actor. A number of theatres have expressed their willingness to premiere the play which appeared last year in Göttersburg (which has now been swallowed up by the Fischer publishing house).

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 24 November 1971)

■ EDUCATION

New ways to attract the young to take an interest in museums

Hannover's Allgemeine

Children can do it too," Paul Klee once said referring to painting, drawing and other creative activities. Children can see — and often more penetratingly and accurately than adults.

But this talent must be developed like any other talent. And what better place is there for this than a museum with all its exhibits?

Considerations of this sort led to schemes where museums opened their doors to children. Experiments started almost simultaneously in many areas throughout the world.

During the course of a visit to the United States Dr Brigitte Menzel, the driving force behind the "Junior Museum" scheme at Dalheim's Ethnological Museum, discussed a number of ideas with the heads of some museum educational departments and studied the results of their work. The Junior Museum, opened last year, benefited from her findings.

Visits of school classes to museums have long been customary in Berlin as elsewhere. This work has been intensified since 1946 and new methods have been adopted.

The old-style guided tours have now been replaced by a conversation or dialogue between art teachers and children. Berlin has gone one step further. The same care is still taken of the

priceless exhibits but the way young people are introduced to them has changed.

Children experience things in a different way from adults. Their approach is more direct. If they are to grasp anything, they must grasp it in the physical sense — they must be able to touch it.

That is why the new Ethnological Museum set up a Junior Museum where the large glass cases can be easily opened and closed. In the middle there is a large carpet where the children can sit while talking with the art teachers.

Every exhibit discussed can be picked up and closely examined. The carpet is also there to guarantee a soft landing for any items dropped. But the children are usually so careful that little harm is done.

The room also contains a library corner with literature suitable for young people interested in the museum. Next door there is a large painting and modelling room with movable tables and chairs, wash basins, cupboards, materials, tools, a cloakroom and facilities for showing colour slides.

To make the Junior Museum as attractive as possible from the very outset, the first exhibition dealt with Prairie Indians. Almost all children are interested in Indians and they were now able to see head-dresses, pipes of peace, weapons, moccasins, jewellery and other items they only knew about before from books or films. Many of these exhibits could be copied in the free model-making classes organised.

Older children are more interested in the communications systems employed by foreign peoples and an exhibition devoted to this subject has just been opened.

Amongst the items on show are signal drums from Nigeria, Mexican mussels and snail trumpets, knotted ropes of the Incas and messenger rods from Australia. The children were given the special treat of being allowed to play the instruments themselves and they often did this more successfully than adults.

Illustrated guide books appear for every new exhibition to help teachers prepare for a visit by their class to the museum.

The courses already mentioned take place during the afternoon, giving children of kindergarten age and older some sort of initial contact with ethnological objects. They also give children the opportunity of trying out for themselves the techniques involved in the production of the museum's exhibits.

One of the current courses is "Colour Shadow Play". The technical construction of the figures used in a Javanese shadow theatre is examined and explained. All the thirteen to sixteen-year-olds taking part in the course then try to make similar figures of their own. By the time the course ends the children will have produced all the figures necessary for a Siamese fairy tale which will then be performed.

This reveals the social and therapeutic aspects of the work. Getting to know the other children, joining in the pleasure taken by a group in its creative activity and conforming to the necessary organisation are all factors that count.

The ante-room to the Junior Museum contains a poster announcing "Children see, paint and act pictures" obviously produced by a child's hand. It is here that the children attending the art gallery courses can draw, paint or act whatever ideas they get when looking at a picture.

Art educationalist Dietrich Bieber shows his lively class a different picture every time. Sometimes he chooses the work and sometimes the children do. There is then a lively discussion about the painting.

Observational talent

Bieber offers few explanations but tries instead to lead the children to valid conclusions. That is not all that difficult as children often have an extremely pronounced observational talent.

Works by Frans Hals, Rubens, Jan Steen, Petrus Christus and Roger van der Weyden have featured in the lessons so far. It is now the turn of Giordano's *Archangel Michael*.

A cute little six-year-old called Verena is the first to comment: "That's an angel and he's killing a man and there's a monster..."

"A wolf," Tim interposes. But Verena cannot believe it is a wolf, claiming, "You can see something like a horn!"

The situation gradually becomes clear. The animal is a sinister dragon and its tail is curled around one of the three fallen



Children looking at Roger van der Weyden's *Archangel Michael* (Photo: Orgel-König)

humans. The man whom St Michael has struck with his spear screams fearfully. Thilo comments, "You can see all the throat."

Tim, a doctor's son, adds, "You can even see his tonsils." Verena is especially interested in what the angel is wearing. The boys believe he has a pullover on but Verena sees that it must be some type of undervest. Underneath you can see his body — and his belly button! Tim, more expertly, states, "He is dressed so lightly in order to fly more easily."

"And so he doesn't sweat," Verena adds.

The children take a long time discussing why the one man is being killed by St Michael and why he is being banished to Hell.

"Perhaps he did something to his friend," Thilo suggests. One of the others suddenly notices that the man speared by St Michael also has wings, adding that it is probably not a human being but the devil in human form. They also notice that St Michael is not having to strain himself as he kills the devil.

"It must be difficult to stand on a writhing man," Verena says but Thilo puts the matter right: "Acrobats in the circus can do it."

And St Michael is an angel. He can also fly!

The children go into the hall after looking at the painting. No group consists of more than fifteen children so that every one of them can be given attention. Great store is placed on mixing children from differing social backgrounds — an unobtrusive though important aspect of the work.

Sometimes children from working-class backgrounds whose parents have never been to a museum show great enthusiasm and produce surprisingly good paintings.

Talent, powers of observation and linguistic expression can be aroused by museum work. Courses often have a specific therapeutic purpose. Blind children or the pupils of schools for the backward can often be helped.

The museum's public relations work for these courses is broadly based. The press, radio and television are informed. Personal letters are sent to the older course members and particular consideration is paid to the schools and youth bureaux that already have contact with the Museum.

Everything is at the planning stage at the moment. A large number of questions still have to be answered, including questions of finance. Essentially it is a continuation of past efforts by museums to try to gain a place in the minds of young people.

Karla Höcker

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 6 November 1971)

■ MEDICINE

Medical profession lambasts strophantine theory

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Dr Berthold Kern of Stuttgart was unable to provide any firm proof of the correctness of his controversial and much-discussed treatment for heart patients when he addressed a recent scientific congress in Heidelberg.

But he told the seventy doctors, pharmacologists and medical statisticians attending the congress that he was convinced doctors were making a mistake if they refused to adopt his method of treating patients with strophantine tablets to prevent fatal heart attacks.

Dr Kern has long demanded discussions with medical authorities over this issue. But it is only now that Professor Gottfried Schettler, the head of the Association for Internal Medicine, has managed to convince his colleagues of the need for such talks and persuade them to take part.

After an absolutely fair and objective discussion the meeting ended in a complete defeat for Dr Kern who is fast becoming a tragic figure as he clings obstinately to his subjective and scientifically untenable findings.

Kern was unable to provide any new data from which doctors could judge the success of his treatment. Professors Koller of Mainz and Überla of Ulm and other statisticians attending the meeting reject-

ed these old figures, describing them as completely unsatisfactory.

Kern has never supplied data dividing his patients into sexes or age groups. But these figures are required to obtain the so-called expectancy figures that indicate whether any cases of death could actually have been averted by means of his strophantine tablet treatment.

Professor Koller stated that between 800 and 1,000 of the fifteen thousand patients treated by Dr Kern for an average period of three and a half years must now be dead — this is the average death rate.

But Kern has in fact observed only 179 deaths. The cause of death could not therefore be determined in the overwhelming majority of cases. The information on the 179 dead patients is completely inadequate and no autopsy recorded death by heart attack.

In view of this state of affairs Kern's assertion that heart attacks can be avoided by taking strophantine tablets is simply untenable.

Dr Kern at first tried to prevent any statistical analysis of his treatment, claiming, to use his own words, that the matter was clear in itself.

Kern had to admit defeat on two points of his theory at Heidelberg. He no longer insists that the traditional treatment of heart insufficiency with the usual digitalis preparations provokes heart attacks. He has also abandoned the view that competitive sport increases the danger of heart attack.

Strophantine is a drug that the body is unable to absorb satisfactorily through the stomach. As the amounts absorbed vary after oral treatment doctors normally use the substance only as an injection.

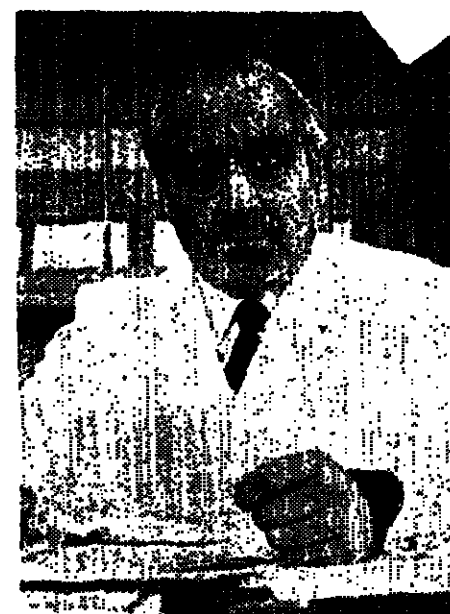
Dr Kern had been liberal in the application of the dosage regulations and his procedure had had no scientific basis. At first he said that strophantine was not fully absorbed when taken orally. Later he claimed that it was completely absorbed no matter how it was taken. Professor Aschenbrenner of Hamburg remarked that there was complete confusion about dosage today.

Unfortunately the controversy about strophantine treatment for heart attacks has given rise to more than the rhetorical attacks by the established medical profession.

Other more serious effects are becoming increasingly noticeable, doctors stated in Heidelberg. As other doctors have adopted Kern's course of treatment more and more patients with serious lung disorders caused by the heart are being admitted to hospitals after treatment with strophantine instead of the usual effective medicaments.

There are fears that Kern's course of treatment is more likely to cause heart attacks in people suffering from heart disorders rather than prevent them.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 22 November 1971)



Dr Berthold Kern (Photo: dpa)

Contact lenses more widely used

At its annual congress in Wiesbaden the Opticians Association pointed out the increasing importance of contact lenses for sight deficiencies.

An association spokesman told the press that contact lenses would be used more in future as they are considerably more efficient than spectacles.

A million people wear contact lenses in the Federal Republic. The figure for the whole of Europe is six million. Twelve to fourteen million people wear them in the United States.

Twenty-four million people in the Federal Republic wear glasses. The number of people wearing contact lenses has doubled in the past ten years.

(Die Welt, 23 November 1971)

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■ THE ECONOMY

To play about with exports could harm the whole economy, Fritz Dietz warns

Fritz Dietz, 62, sole owner of the Frankfurt firm Gebrüder Dietz, was a founder member of the Frankfurt Chamber of Commerce in the early post-war years, has been its chairman since 1964, was a founder member of the Federal Republic Trade Association in Bonn, a body he has also headed since 1962. Consul Dietz is also chairman of the Joint Committee of Federal Republic Industry and holds a number of honorary posts in the economic, political, cultural, scientific and sporting fields.

The Germans, so a number of foreign observers maintain, are particularly prone to emotional extremes: exaggerated elation when the going is good, undue pessimism when it is not. A sanguine sense of reality is, it is claimed, not the Germans' strongest point.

This characteristic ought not to be generalised but it should not be dismissed as irrelevant either. I feel we should especially bear it in mind at present now that the economic trend threatens to lead on to an outside emotional swing that could in its turn dangerously accelerate the swing of the economic pendulum.

To judge by reports in daily papers and specialist publications in recent weeks one could well gain the impression that we are on the brink of economic disaster. In October there was talk of full employment being threatened; now there is talk of a full-scale crisis and mass unemployment round the corner.

A number of pundits are already drawing parallels with the thirties' slump. Comments and forecasts of this kind are, in my opinion, extremely irresponsible and indeed dangerous. They bear no relation to the current economic situation and intensify uncertainty to intolerable levels.

Tales of woe are as inappropriate now as crows of delight were when the going

was good. Besides, everyone must realise that things cannot go on improving ad infinitum in any sector.

Not that there can be any doubt that the economic situation in all sectors and at all levels has grown a good deal more difficult and in part extremely difficult no matter what distinctions are drawn.

The detailed shape the downturn is to take will depend on us all, politicians, entrepreneurs, trade unionists and indeed consumers.

The present state of affairs is our own responsibility and the result of a lack of moderation in a variety of sectors. It can only be coped with by means of common sense and discipline.

Over a year ago I recommended a moratorium on wage demands as a means of toning down the trend towards price increases and promptly met with criticism from all and sundry. In the present circumstances it is more than likely that a wage freeze will be imposed forcibly.

Anyone can make mistakes but those who are responsible for everyone are duty bound to recognise a mistake for what it is and correct it.

This applies in equal measure to those who are not prepared to forgo their excessive wage demands and to those who feel able as things are either to increase prices to an unwarranted extent or further to increase them. Above all it applies to those who despite their better judgment continue to ride the tide.

Who, when all is said and done, is stopping us from doing what is necessary in the interest of all and sundry? Who, for instance, is going to stop the Federal government from deciding on an immediate return to fixed exchange rates?

This is a move I consider to be of paramount importance, particularly as a common European, let alone international solution to the currency crisis is not

in sight and the economy of this country can no longer bear the burden alone.

Plays on words and tricks are no longer any use. What we need are decisions and the right ones. We must re-establish reliable bases for calculating profit and loss, climb down from exaggerated demands and all tighten the belt a little.

We can simply no longer afford to spend more than we all earn. This is the only way to regain the necessary confidence.

The same goes for the country's finances. Public spending must be kept with a small "s" and saving with a large one. The Federal government, states, cities and local authorities must no longer behave as though they can count on the same growth rates as in 1970.

Tax increases as introduced by a number of cities serve only to intensify the economic downturn and represent no answer to the problem of financing local authority requirements.

Nor can we afford any longer to overlook the fact that our economic potential is not, in the long run, up to footing the bill of gigantic administrative machinery involving more than 150 Ministers and State Secretaries, ten Federal states and a total of more than two million civil servants.

This applies in equal measure to management in the private sector. What is needed is more action and less administration.

At an economic turning-point it is essential frankly to admit not only the mistakes that have been in monetary policy but also and without delay to put export costing back on a sound footing.

Above all one basic economic premise must be recognised for what it is: the fact that we as a country depend on exports. To play about with exports is to jeopardise the entire economy.



Fritz Dietz

(Photo: Pieperhoff)

This is something that cannot be said too clearly in view of the fact that a number of politicians are still toying with the idea that the economy is weighted too heavily in favour of exports and that economic policy decisions provide a convenient opportunity of changing this state of affairs.

Exports are to be cut back and in their place there is to be more public spending at home in order to carry out reform policies that have so far proved a failure.

It is high time to part company with mental exercises of this kind, overweighted in favour of social policy as they are. Exports can neither be allowed to become the whipping-boy of economic policy nor be hoisted into the saddle of the packhorse of reform policies.

Last but not least we ought to view the cooling-off of the economy as an opportunity of reverting to realistic yardsticks in politics and economics.

On this basis it will be easier and more effective to resort to the right economic measures at the right time and in the right dose. This would greatly assist everyone in steering clear of emotional extremes.

(Wirtschaftswoche/18er Volkswirtschaft 19 November 1971)

million Mark reserve fund, which he can call up as a reinforcement at any time, represents a poorly armed force rather than a crack brigade. It is high time he threw this into the thick of the battle. The more time passes the weaker this band becomes.

The Bonn government and the provincial assembly governments should not hesitate to put the monies they have kept in reserve back into circulation for investment purposes. They should do this with alacrity but not excessive haste. They should do it when and where the state of the labour market and competitiveness allow it, and that is almost everywhere.

As for the ten-per-cent income tax surcharge levied temporarily and repayable the government is doing well to bide its time rather than pay this back now. The consumer goods industries do not need such a shot in the arm and repayment now would not be rewarded with a slackening off of pay demands.

If the government vacillates much more there is a danger that the mistakes of 1966 will be repeated, with all their unpleasant consequences. Consequences from which we are still suffering.

Schiller's metaphor of weeding before sowing is neat. But obviously the Finance and Economic Affairs Minister is overlooking the fact that he is thereby coming close to doing what he always reproached his predecessor for, namely cutting the level of employment to bring wages and prices back into line. And if he then does his sowing too late there will be too many weeds in his field.

Armin Grünewald

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 24 November 1971)

■ AGRICULTURE

Farmers must keep an eye on market conditions or suffer

Without doubt a number of farms are in financial difficulties and many of those that are struggling are among the group that on the surface seem to be particularly progressive.

For they have laid too much emphasis on business management and applying economic theories and have embarked on excessive investments.

For years it has been stressed that a high level of sales is more important than a high level of productivity, but for too long this pointer has been heeded all too little.

And it is hard to blame the farmers for making this mistake since the guaranteed minimum prices offered by the European Economic Community's agricultural policy challenge the farmer to produce excesses without any thought to where and how they can be sold.

Farmers can claim that in the past twenty years they have increased their productivity beyond anyone's wildest dreams. Nor should they be despised for being proud of this achievement even though there was a lot of ground to be made up in agriculture as compared with other spheres of the economy.

But it is becoming clearer all the time that an increase in productivity is often a bad thing for the state of the market although productivity boosting "at any price" may at first seem beneficial for the individual.

Anyone who produces commodities at his price without keeping a wary eye on the state of the market cannot expect too much sympathy if he finds he has to sell his produce "at any price".

Compared with matters concerning production techniques, however, consideration of the state of the market has so far taken a back seat in the organisational plans of the farmers.

There should be no denying that



individual market requirements have been carried out by agriculture, collecting produce in more marketable groups, improving quality to meet the needs of more demanding customers and the like.

Nevertheless the individual farmer knows too little about what makes the farm produce market tick and thus he is unable to make the adjustments necessary to his production methods.

Of course specialist farming publications regularly print market reports, but a genuine overall picture of the state of the market, which could be useful in affecting production methods is sadly lacking.

It is hard to get away from the impression that farming is a kind of blind-man's-buff. Farmers produce commodities without knowing what chance there is of selling them and it is left to chance whether the farmer gets an at least partially acceptable price.

If the farm is not to be just a place for churning out raw materials but also a supply factory for cooperatives, for trade and for the food industry joint ventures and mutual ties are necessary.

The idea of commissioned farm produce should not remain confined to the production sphere for much longer. It has after all found few friends in this sphere. It is in the sphere of marketing that closer cooperation would be of benefit. But obviously the farmers are so opposed to contractual ties that it is difficult to get this idea off the ground.

Obviously the cooperatives and rural trade companies must become genuine relay stations between the producers and the market and must be able to give

farmers reliable information about types of produce, sowing, tending crops and fertilisers. They must tell farmers what is the best kind of fodder for their herds, they must make the decisions about the quantities that are to be delivered and the time at which they should be delivered, otherwise farmers will not be able to use them to gain a clear understanding of the state of the agricultural produce market.

In Sweden for example things seem to be going better. The state of the agricultural market is by no means as hectic as here thanks to precise reports. Agricultural organisations are obviously able to control the state of the farm produce market better by giving farmers plenty of notice. Thus the Swedes are able to prevent prices falling seriously through over-production.

A few years ago it seemed as though agriculture in this country had got over one problem by bringing some sense to the sadly neglected potato market. It looked as though it would be possible to boost the sales of potatoes. They were no longer concealed in jute sacks, but were displayed in plastic see-through bags clearly marking what type they were and whether they cooked "firm" or "mashy".

What the farmers failed to do was to take the next step and turn them into an end-product. This business has been taken over by foreign competitors, particularly the businesslike Dutch.

In 1970 almost 184,000 tons of processed potatoes were imported into the Federal Republic and 157,800 tons of them came from The Netherlands. It is estimated that the increase in processed potato imports this year will be in the area of fifty per cent. The Federal Association of Potato Processing Industries calls this "a shocking state of affairs" for West German agriculture. The market has been thrown away and it will be very difficult to win it back now.

Astronauts' food soon to go into mass production

are capable of keeping a human being alive and fit for a long period without any recourse to normal foodstuffs.

Synthetic foodstuffs were first produced by American scientists attached to NASA at the Life Science Laboratory in California. Further research has now been carried out on these foodstuffs by the Pfirmer firm (founded 1919) in Erlangen and they have already been tested at Erlangen University Clinic Surgical Department in ante-operative treatment.

From there the biochemists got the idea of developing a compact form of nutrition free from roughage.

In Plating this form of nutrition is being produced in the new factory and it opens up many new therapeutic possibilities. This concentrated food, which is still described as a diet, is absorbed in the first few inches of the intestines and making the intestines and their contents completely sterile after a few days.

This will mean a great stride forward for stomach surgery and for the treatment of liver ailments since there will not be the usual ammonia production by intestinal bacteria. And the now diet will also be of value in treating digestive ailments.

Artificial feeding intravenously not only speeds recovery, but also reduces the risk to a patient prior to an operation.

One 44-year-old patient in Australia who was fed intravenously with the artificial nutrition prepared in Erlangen

Pork is a glowing example of the gap between production and demand. It seems to swing like a pendulum between excessive production and a shortage. The constant ups and downs of supply and hence price have led to the expression "the pork cycle" being coined.

Those concerned seem to believe that the pork cycle is just in the nature of things and cannot be altered.

In fact it is — in comparison with other branches of agriculture — relatively simple to adjust pork production quantity and quality-wise to the state of the market at any given time.

The situation with regard to eggs, however, is a result of production without any regard for actual demand. No wonder, then, that prices have plummeted to such a low level that at times profitability seems endangered.

Agriculture must pay very close attention to the state of the market at all times because, unlike other branches of the economy, it does not have other opportunities of boosting sales.

The vehicle-manufacturing industry, for instance, can boost sales by bringing out new models, improving technical details, giving motors an extra burst of power and adding new colours to the range of finishes.

Swifter market appraisals

But new lines in foodstuffs, although they have a chance of gaining sales, do so by taking sales away from other foodstuffs and thus do little to lighten the farmer's worries about declining sales.

Agriculture must get to grips with the problem of gauging the state of the market faster. More information dissemination is needed as well as further cooperation between those who produce foodstuffs and those who put them on the shelves of shops and stores.

Part of this development must be what Farmers Union President Constantin Freiherr von Heeremann has already recommended. Farmers must conclude long-term supply and collection contracts.

Rudolf Maseiner

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 November 1971)

even put on 19 kilograms in weight! He received 1,278 bottles of the infusion solution before his recovery.

During the famine of the Nigerian civil war thousands of children in what was then Biafra were saved from starvation with these man-made foodstuffs. For those children whose bodies were too racked with hunger were unable to digest the normal foodstuffs sent by charities.

But Norwegian doctors working in Biafra administered the Erlangen preparation to tide the children over until they could be given normal food.

Despite the advances in factory production of synthetic foods Dr Fekl says: "The food pill, which illustrated magazines love to conjure up every now and again, is unlikely ever to exist. It is impossible to concentrate all the foodstuffs a human needs into a pill. The body requires at least 400 to 500 grams of food every day."

But, he added, many essential food factors can now be synthetically produced. Many products that are today rolling out of the chemical factories by the wagonload are being tested for their nutritional value in laboratories in East and West.

We have long since passed the stage of producing a food ersatz. Without doubt the foodstuffs that are at present being manufactured in laboratories and tested on hospital patients will one day be of benefit to the whole of mankind.

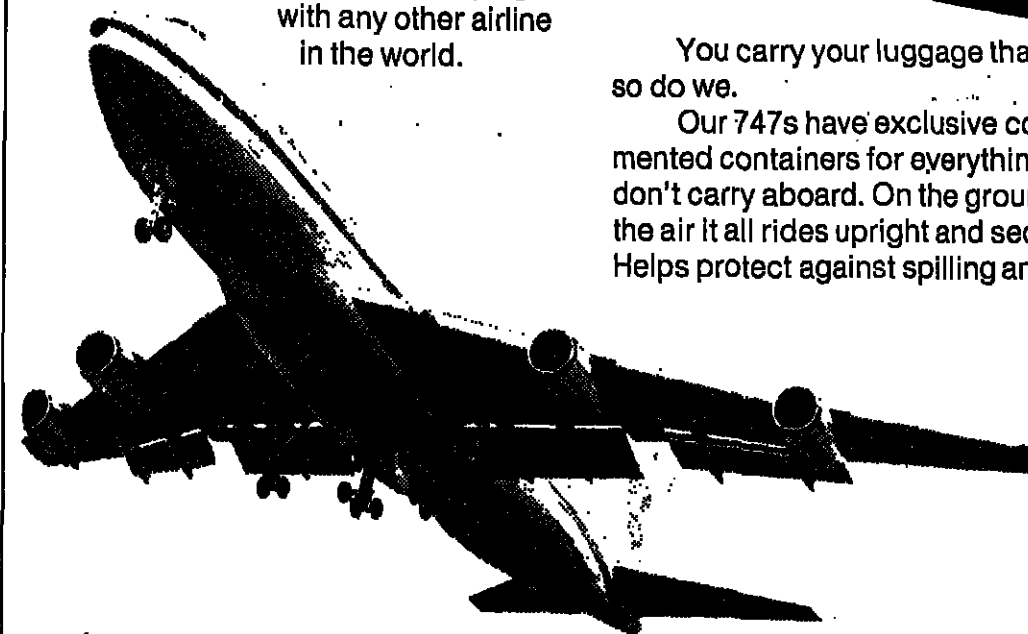
Hubert Neumann

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 November 1971)

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LEISURE

Dancing schools as popular as ever with young and old

The gangling youth hurried over to the young girl, made a clumsy bow, took her hand and waltzed away. They danced off not quite in time with the three-four music, grimly concentrating on the dance steps, the boy's not following the girl's in perfect unison.

Dancing in 1971 still has a smack of the "one, two and three..." about it. Inhibitions still have to be swept away, preference for the foxtrot overcome and prejudices against the tango disposed of. At first glance it would seem that the heyday of the dancing school is not yet over. They have adapted themselves to the changing times. Dancing lessons in November 1971 must be fun.

For years since the beat craze began and reached its highpoint dancing schools have had to fight for their existence. The depression was considerable but now it has been overcome. The influx back to the schools reveals a business boom.

Investigations have shown that dancing has now been included in many schools in sports periods. Boys and girls of eleven and twelve are taking part and 15 and 16-year-olds are again discovering the dancing schools.

Indeed they are no longer going to dancing lessons in whole classes as they once did. There are now only a few from each class who are laughed at and scorned by the others. Parents hardly have any say in the matter.

Ursula, 16, said: "My parents are not concerned if I go or not. They give me the money and I go dancing, because I want to learn to dance, because I think it's fun."

Students and youths undergoing apprentice training as well as married couples of all ages join in the dancing teachers' classes. There are also people in their mid-twenties attending.

Why do they go to dancing lessons? Georg, a chemistry student, 24, said: "My wife and I used to go to dancing lessons separately. Now we can learn to dance together. We are now a little too old for beat."

A housewife from Bonames, 25, said: "In our position we have to know how to dance. We don't want to know about the foxtrot that is designed for widows. My husband has office and social responsibilities, so we want to hold our end up and not go pumping round the floor."

Students from 15 to 65 at the Frankfurt Wernicke dancing school maintain that knowing how to dance is to be socially acceptable. But one of the main reasons why people go to dancing lessons is to meet people of their own age and then when the lessons are over to go out with them. One pupil questioned: "Where in Frankfurt can you go dancing?"

The dancing class people answer this question themselves. They say: "Most bars have dance floors that are too small,

and the others are too dear. So we go to parties and dance parties that are arranged by Wernicke. There is no problem about what you wear, the drinks are not too expensive and we meet people with similar interests."

These are the facts that attract people of all ages and from all social levels to the Wernicke dance school. What is the secret of the school's success?

Helmut and Rosemarie Wernicke commented: "We don't have any social axe to grind. We love dancing and we try to show other people how they can enjoy it too."

Their teaching methods are unconventional, their touch is light, but 'she' is as strict as 'he' is in many ways. The ninety-minute lessons are full of variety. Each dance is practised for about ten minutes then the class passes on to the next one. In the first lessons the tango is only lightly touched upon and popular dances are taught with regard to the carnival season.

Young lads with long hair are as welcome as young girls wearing hot pants. Girls and boys who play the wallflower are soon shaken out of their seclusion. If there are too many girls older dance students are roped in or trios are formed. There is plenty of kidding between teacher and pupils.

The demands of youth control the dance floor as ever. And as ever the dancing class is a kind of marriage market. Peter, 23, laughing said: "There is a lot to be discovered here." Peter, a student, drew Ortrud, 16, towards him. He was badgered into going to the dancing classes by his parents. The first time they came with him. "So that I did not run away," he quipped. Now he is one of the regular standbys, dances with the advanced class and his parents are delighted, so much so that Peter's young brother is now brought along.

Dancing schools have adapted themselves to the times. The association of dancing teachers opposed modernisation vehemently. Now several times a year programmes are drawn up, useful records for use in a dance discotheque are produced so that an interesting teaching plan can be undertaken.

Differences in cost from one school to another do not exist. An 85-hour course of study with explanations and parties costs from 60 to 100 Marks. And a book for study at home has been produced.

Ute Lieske
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 23 November 1971)



Giant wheel at the annual Hamburg fair

(Photo: Cont-Press)

Let's play English

Erangen's Youth Centre has introduced a new factor into pre-school education by providing three-year-olds with the rudiments of English in a teaching course entitled "We play English and it's fun."

Claudia Hofmann, the head of the course, is an American and a sociology graduate. "My course is based exclusively on learning through play," she reports. "Three-year-olds should learn a foreign language like their own mother tongue."

A similar French course will start in January 1972.

(Hannoversche Presse, 28 October 1971)

MUNICH OLYMPICS

Three women called back to take up their swords

At next year's Munich Olympics the Olympic oath is to be taken in the name of all participants by a woman athlete, 32-year-old Heidi Schmid-Grundmann. A one-time fencing coach, her name was put forward by Willi Daume, president of the organising committee.

At the Rome Olympics in 1960 Heidi, an Augsburg girl, was the surprise winner of a gold medal in the women's rapier event.

A year later in Turin the attractive student gave the lie to the claim that the Olympic victory was a fluke by winning first in the world championships, a feat which was generally acknowledged. She has been nominated to take the Olympic oath in recognition of her standing as one of the most successful post-war personalities in the world of sport this country has to offer and her racing career is evidently not yet over and done with.

The indications are that she will not shy at taking the Olympic oath but also taking to the floor again together with her former team-mates Helga Mees-Volz of Saarbrücken and Gudrun Theuerkauf of Bonn.

These three "musketeers" are undoubtedly not motivated solely by personal ambition. It is far more likely that their return to the sporting arena is the result of an indirect appeal by the Federal Republic Fencing Association, which is said to have asked the women to prove a washout at Munich.

An uneasy feeling has decided the powers-that-be to call on the past to dress the balance of the present and shape the prospects of the future. To begin with Heidi Schmid and Helga

Mees-Volz were merely surprised. Gundi Theuerkauf found the idea most amusing. Indeed, there is something amusing about the Fencing Association, having put the old guard out to graze after the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City, now, two years later, changing its mind and recalling its female veterans.

"Often enough they said we were too old and ought to make way for the youngsters," Gudrun Theuerkauf recalls. These hints did not go unnoticed. Having fenced for more than fifteen years, in the process of which they had experienced all the ups and downs of sport, the three veterans were increasingly thinking in terms of their private lives.

They wanted either to settle down and marry or to devote more time to their families and so decided to down swords.

Little more was heard of them. A new generation answered the call to arms, talented and promising. But the newcomers failed to make the grade. There are no "vertical take-offs" in the world of fencing. It takes years to put the finishing touches to promise of talent.



Olympic fencing winner Heidi Schmid-Grundmann, here seen with her eleven-month-old daughter, has been proposed to take the Olympic oath for the 1972 Munich Olympics. She is the first woman ever to have been proposed to take the Olympic oath. (Photo: Hestmüller)

The pre-Olympic world fencing championships in Vienna proved that the newcomers are far from the target of their dreams. This being the case the Fencing Association recalled the old hands.

Heidi Schmid-Grundmann still lives in Augsburg and is the mother of an eleven-month-old daughter. She had no easy time of it as an Olympic victor either, for in those days she travelled to Munich and the college of music every day.

Stefan Lázár
(Die Zeit, 26 November 1971)

Tümmler - vignette of a runner

he replies that "I aim to win every race, though whether I will do so or not is another matter."

He is not a man to talk in terms of figures but was prepared to make one forecast. "3 min. 35 sec. ought to be enough to win an Olympic medal in competition with Ryun, Liquori, Keino, Wadoux and Ares."

Ryün's is the first name Tümmler mentions. He reckons the world record-holder will make a tremendous comeback next season.

Tümmler is arranging his season differently from the way he used to in his heyday. In training he is going to run shorter distances faster. Instead of twelve-mile cross-country runs eight are going to be the limit.

"The idea," he says, "is to safeguard my knee. The faster I run the less I strain it." In addition he plans weight-lifting, hill training and jumping.

Manfred Steffny

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 23 November 1971)



Bodo Tümmler in action (Photo: Nordbild)

Since 19 November a high school in Grunewald, a suburb of West Berlin, has boasted a new student teacher of biology and physical education - Bodo Tümmler, the 1966 European 1,500 metres champion and 1968 Olympic bronze medalist over the same distance with a best time of 3 min. 36.5 sec.

It is only a stone's throw from the school to the training facilities of Charlottenburg Sports Club, of which Tümmler has been a member since he was a youngster.

The proximity is no coincidence. Once again the nearly 28-year-old Berliner aims to challenge the world's best, having been out of action last year and this because of a cartilage operation on the knee.

This season Tümmler has raced four times after being out of action since the end of 1969 with quadriceps trouble and the practice has restored his confidence of making a comeback in the Olympic season.

The first was the West Berlin 800 metres championships. Then, three weeks later, the national 1,500 metres championships and although it was decided that he was not to take part in the European championships as one leg of

Albania	SA \$ 0.05	Colombia	col. \$ 1-	Formosa	NT \$ 5-	Indonesia	Rp. 15-	Malawi	M. \$ 0.40	Paraguay	G. 15-	Sudan	PT \$ 1-
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